# 2016

# ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY

**FRATERNITY AND SORORITY EXPERIENCE SURVEY**

# Fraternity and Sorority Experience Survey (FSES)

## - Robert Morris University -

## General Information
The FSES is a survey that assesses fraternity and sorority student experiences and a wide range of learning outcomes. The sections in the survey is organized into five constructs: Learning, Values, Operations, Community, and Alcohol/Social Issues. Within these constructs, several areas are covered: Academic experiences, Educational programming, Mentoring and leadership, Integration of F/S into life, Personal growth and development, Civic/community engagement, Chapter activities, Advising, Alumni/ae involvement, Membership intake process, Sense of belonging, Impact of chapter housing on experience, Relationships outside the chapter, Alcohol and drug use, Social and sexual misconduct, Intervention behaviors, and includes student demographic information.

The data contained in this report was based on data collected from fraternity & sorority members at Robert Morris University during the fall semester of the 2016-2017 academic year. The information presented in this report represents a small fraction of the entire data and was selected on the basis of what appears, in our opinion, to be useful for higher education practitioners. All percentages are rounded to nearest whole number.

## Demographic Information
236 members at Robert Morris University participated in the FSES. Of those:
- 122 identified as female
- 95 identified as male
- 0 identified as other gender

- 19 did not respond

Ethnicity
- 88% identified as White or Caucasian
- 3% identified as Black or African American
- 2% identified as Asian
- 5% identified as other ethnicities (American Indian or Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern or North African or other ethnicities not listed)

11% of the students' parents attended but did not graduate from college.
19% of the students' parents completed high school or a GED and 1% of the students' parents did not finish high school.

## Learning (Academic experiences, Educational programming, Mentoring and leadership)

95% of new members agreed their new member education program was organized[1].

In evaluating the new member education program, 100% of new members stated the program was above average[2] when discussing the organizations' history or chapter policies and procedures. 15% stated that the program did a below average[3] job in discussing stress management.

The following topics in the chapter's educational programs/workshops were evaluated by all members as above average[4]:
- 89% - Leadership development

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[1] Combination of "agree" and "somewhat agree" responses

[2] Combination of "excellent" and "good" responses

[3] Combination of "fair" and "poor" responses

[4] Combination of "excellent" and "good" responses

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- 89% - The founding values of the fraternity/sorority
- 88% - Hazing

Alternatively, the chapter's educational programs/workshops were evaluated by all members as below average[5]:
- 14% - Multicultural awareness
- 9% - Bystander intervention
- 8% - Personal accountability

## Values (Integrating Fraternity/Sorority experiences into life, Personal growth & development, Civic/community engagement)

97% reported that their fraternity/sorority experience had a positive effect on their sense of integrity[6].

96% reported that their fraternity/sorority experience had a positive effect on their commitment to serve the community.

96% reported that their fraternity/sorority experience had a positive effect on their sense of campus community[7].

95% indicated that their fraternity/sorority experience had a positive effect on their ability to develop positive relationships with others.

94% reported that their fraternity/sorority experience had a positive effect on their sense of personal values.

48% of members reported that alumni/alumnae assist with networking for careers[8]. 43% of members reported that alumni/alumnae are

not involved by assisting with community service projects[9].

## Operations (Chapter activities, Advising, Alumni/ae involvement, Membership intake process)

The most commonly cited reasons for joining their fraternity/sorority were:
- Friendships
- Leadership development
- Philanthropy and community service

9% were new members/new initiates (first year of membership).

83% of members reported they received mentoring from older undergraduate chapter members. 24% reported they didn't receive mentoring from professors. The most common mentoring topic was leadership within the chapter.

Most cited their chapter spent the appropriate amount of time on brotherhood/sisterhood, philanthropy and community service, chapter policies and procedures, campus involvement opportunities, and learning course material.

95% cited that the chapter upholds organizational values. 6% cited the chapter does not deal with conflict between members.

90% of chapter leaders stated the chapter receives formal or informal advising from their chapter advisor[10]. 40% of chapter leaders stated the chapter does not receive formal or informal advising from parents[11].

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5 Combination of "fair" and "poor" responses
6 Combination of "agree" and "somewhat agree"
7 Combination of "agree" and "somewhat agree"
8 Combination of "always" and "usually"

9 Combination of "rarely" and "never"
10 Combination of "always" and "usually" responses
11 Combination of "rarely" and "never" responses

## Community (Sense of belonging, Impact of chapter housing on experience, Relationships outside of chapter)

91% cited their fraternity/sorority experience as valuable to very valuable to their overall collegiate experience.

85% have held leadership roles of committee member, committee chair, or executive board officer in their chapter.

51% of chapter leaders stated alumni/alumnae assist with chapter programs and events. 51% of the chapter leaders stated alumni/alumnae does not assist the chapter with making membership decisions.

94% of members who have fraternity/sorority housing cited that the chapter house was a good place to socialize. 34% of members cited that the chapter house was not a good place to hold meetings.

## Alcohol/Social Issues (Alcohol and drug use, Social and sexual misconduct, Intervention behaviors)

Members reported that 47% of their chapter uses alcohol[12]. Additionally, members reported that 38% of their chapter uses recreational drugs[13].

The five most commonly cited issues for members in the chapter were:
- Mental Health Disorders (28%)
- Body image (25%)
- Alcohol abuse (12%)
- Eating Disorders (12%)
- Harassment of other members (9%)

Members reported that the hazing of other chapter members was not an issue within the chapter.

Most agreed they would respect someone who intervened in a potentially harmful situation at a chapter function and wanted to be part of a chapter that intervened on a brother/sister's behalf when they were unable to[14].

(Binge-Drinking statistics) In a typical week:
- 24% drank four or more drinks twice
- 5% drank four or more drinks three to five times
- 1% drank four or more drinks six or more times

During a typical week:
- 5% reported they encouraged others to limit drinking alcohol three to five times.
- 5% reported they set a limit on their consumption of alcohol three to five times.
- 3% reported they encouraged others to avoid an unwanted sexual situation three to five times.

17% reported their fraternity/sorority members drinking or drug use has negatively affected their sleep and 7% reported their fraternity/sorority members drinking or drug use has negatively affected their personal well-being.

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[12] Combination of "all" and "most" of the chapter

[13] Combination of "few" and "some" of the chapter

[14] Combination of "agree" and "somewhat agree" responses

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